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Agenda item 76

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Sylvester Ekundayo **Rowe** (Sierra Leone)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

“Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

“(a) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

“(b) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

“(c) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

“(d) Report of the Disarmament Commission”

was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 38/183 O of 20 December 1983 and 55/35 A, B and C of 20 November 2000.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 2nd meeting, on 4 October 2001, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 64 to 84, which was held at the 3rd to 11th meetings, from 8 to 12 and from 15 to 17 October (see A/C.1/56/PV.3-11). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 12th to 17th meetings, from 22 to 24 and on 26, 29 and 30 October (see A/C.1/56/PV.12-17).



Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 18th to 24th meetings, on 30 and 31 October and on 2, 5 and 6 November (see A/C.1/56/PV.18-24).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;¹
- (b) Report of the Disarmament Commission;²
- (c) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (A/56/418);
- (d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (A/56/359).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.4

5. At the 17th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Jamaica, on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Egypt, Finland, Ghana, Jamaica, Myanmar, Nepal, South Africa, Sweden and Ukraine, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (A/C.1/56/L.4).

6. At its 19th meeting, on 31 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.4 without a vote (see para. 11, draft resolution A).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.36

7. At the 13th meeting, on 23 October, the representative of Ecuador introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/56/L.36).

8. At its 19th meeting, on 31 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.36 without a vote (see para. 11, draft resolution B).

C. Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters

9. No proposal was submitted and no action was taken under sub-item (a).

D. United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

10. No proposal was submitted and no action was taken under sub-item (b).

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/56/27).*

² *Ibid., Supplement No. 42 (A/56/42).*

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

11. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution A Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,³

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999 and 55/35 C of 20 November 2000,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Bearing in mind its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;³
2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;
3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;
4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,⁴ and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items of its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";⁵
5. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission, at its 2001 organizational session, adopt the following items for consideration at its 2002 substantive session:

- (a) Ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament;

³ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/56/42).

⁴ Resolution S-10/2.

⁵ A/CN.10/137.

(b) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2002 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,⁶ together with all the official records of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

Draft resolution B

Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,⁷

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching concrete issues for negotiation,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Urges* the Conference to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items on its agenda;

3. *Welcomes* the strong collective interest of the Conference in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2002 session;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its President to conduct appropriate consultations with its incoming President during the inter-sessional period to try to achieve this goal, as expressed in paragraph 40 of its report;⁸

⁶ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/56/27).*

⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/56/27).*

⁸ *Ibid.*

5. *Further welcomes* the recommendation of the Conference, as expressed in paragraph 41 of its report, to reappoint the Special Coordinator on Review of the Agenda of the Conference on Disarmament, the Special Coordinator on Expansion of Membership of the Conference on Disarmament and the Special Coordinator on Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2002 session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

7. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".